

ROCK ISLAND INQUIRY BEFORE I. C. C. IS ENDED

No Possibility That Report Can Be Made to Congress at This Session.

MUDGE IS CHIEF WITNESS

President of Operating Company Discusses Present Conditions of System—Cause of Financial Situation Not Due to Manipulation.

WASHINGTON, February 27.—Inquiry by the Interstate Commerce Commission into the affairs of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway Company, and its allied corporations ended today, but with no possibility of any report to Congress on the resolution calling for the investigation to be made at this session. Counsel for the railroad agreed to submit by March 20 abstracts of the evidence offered, presenting their view of the facts brought out. Joseph W. Polk, chief counsel for the commission, who has conducted the inquiry, will present a similar statement, but it is improbable that the commission's findings will be made known before Congress is again assembled and the formal report is made.

Henry U. Mudge, president of the Rock Island operating company, the earnings of which were said in testimony to be the only value behind the securities of the two companies organized by the Leeds-Field-Moore group which acquired control of the Rock Island in 1901, was the chief witness today for the railroad. His testimony dealt almost entirely with the present physical condition of the system, which he declared to be better than at any time in its history. He corroborated other railroad officials who have declared that the underlying cause of the present financial condition of the road was not due to any financial manipulation.

The creation of the holding companies, the witness insisted, had not injured the Rock Island Railway with a dollar in addition to the burden of the "Prisco" system, later turned back at a cost of \$7,500,000 to the Iowa holding company, but which was finally met by the operating company, had appeared to be a good investment at the time, he said. To changed conditions of railroading he ascribed the failure of that investment to come up to expectations.

Regarding the "bonus" payments to various officers, Mr. Mudge said the total of those payments was a "bagatelle" compared to increases in costs of operation. He said that in many railroad positions, from section hand to president, he said he had worked hard. "But I give you my word," he added, "I believe I work harder for my money now—longer hours, harder work—than I did in any of those jobs. I know I earn more for the road."

Mix Taken Back to Prison.
Daniel Mix, charged with violating his parole, was turned over to Special Officer McGrath, a guard from the United States penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan., by Henrico County authorities yesterday.

Mix was sentenced to prison for housebreaking, and as he had served as a member of the army, he was sent to a Federal prison. He was later paroled, and more recently a general alarm was sent out by the authorities charging him with breaking his parole. He was arrested on February 26 at City Point by United States Marshal John G. Saunders.

J. C. West Improves.
The condition of J. C. West, passenger agent for the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Company, who recently underwent an operation for appendicitis at Grace Hospital, was said to be greatly improved last night. Shortly after he underwent the operation, Mr. West suffered a relapse and it was feared that another operation would be necessary. Hospital attendants last night said his recovery is now assured.

Southern Railway Earnings.
Estimated earnings of the Southern Railway system for the third week in February were: This year, \$1,138,556; last year, \$1,297,191. Decrease, \$158,635.

POLICE RAID ALLEGED DISORDERLY HOUSE

Admit Lack of Specific Evidence But Will Attempt to Prove Its General Character.

Mrs. A. E. Mitchell, fifty-three years old, of 118 North Seventh Street, was last night arrested by Policemen Galbraith and J. J. Smith on a warrant charging her with maintaining a disorderly house at that address. There is said to be no specific evidence to show that disorder has occurred there, it is said, and the case will be in the nature of a test to prove the feasibility of prosecuting in cases where the police are unable to state particular instances of disorder. Mrs. Mitchell was bailed for her appearance in Police Court tomorrow morning.

It was learned last night that an attempt, made by the police about the middle of last week, to secure specific evidence against the house and Mrs. Mitchell as the proprietor, failed. Justice of the Peace Purdie is said to have refused to issue a warrant at that time because the evidence required by law was not forthcoming. However, the officers were instructed to arrest the alleged proprietor on a blanket charge, and the effort will be made to convict on evidence attesting the general character and reputation of the place.

According to what could be learned from the police last night, they expect to show that the house has been used as a rendezvous for men and women during the last few months, and that it has ceased to be a boarding house. It is said that many persons, who are prominent in the city and whose names are said to have been learned by the police during the several days in which the house has been under surveillance, are known to be regular visitors.

However, it was pointed out last night that there is no evidence as to a specific and notorious violation of the law, and for this reason the case depends upon the ability of the police to prove the existence of a disorderly house by its general reputation. It is the first case of the kind to be brought into court by the police, and it will serve as test for the future.

BLUES PLAN BAZAAR

Details of plans for the bazaar to be given by the Richmond Light Infantry Blues in the armory during the week of April 19 to 24, were discussed, and officers to have charge of the affair were elected Friday morning at the Jefferson Hotel at a meeting attended by many leading society women.

Mrs. Norman V. Randolph, nominated as chairman of the bazaar, Mrs. Fred Pleasant, who was unanimously elected. Other officers chosen were Mrs. Arthur P. Wilmer, treasurer, and Mrs. A. A. Houser, secretary.

The next meeting of those interested in the bazaar will be held at the Jefferson Hotel at noon next Friday.

The entertainment at the armory is to be of a military character. Tabernacles and short plays will be given each night during the event representing various periods of American history. In the afternoon Mrs. Thomas Binger will have charge of parties of children, who will present different kinds of entertainments.

Several of the debutantes and younger society women will be saleswomen. The event promises to be one of the most attractive of the spring season. Various kinds of articles will be offered for sale.

DEATHS IN VIRGINIA

H. L. Luffsey.
H. L. Luffsey, seventy-five years old, a widely known citizen and a veteran in the War Between the States, died at 12:15 o'clock Friday morning, after an illness of two weeks, at his residence, 265 North Twenty-first Street. He was a native of Prince George County, where he spent his early youth. Later he removed to Petersburg, where he became engaged in the harness business. With the exception of the time he spent in the army, he followed the line work. John W. Hines is chairman of the entertainment committee.

Russell Euliss.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
FREDERICKSBURG, VA., February 27.—Russell Euliss, son of Mrs. Emma

Grays, Twelfth Virginia Regiment, Mac-hone's Brigade. He was mustered into service at Norfolk in 1861, and served until the close of the war. When severely wounded in an engagement at South Mountain he was left on the battlefield for dead, but by good fortune he was picked up by the enemy and borne to a safe retreat, where he soon recovered.

Captain Patrick J. Murphy.
ALEXANDRIA, VA., February 27.—While calling for a physician over the telephone, Captain Patrick J. Murphy dropped dead last night in the office of Herbert C. Griffith, yardmaster of the Southern Railway company. Captain Murphy had gone to work, although he was complaining, and as his condition grew worse, he decided to send for a physician. Just as he was taking down the receiver, he fell back dead. Captain Murphy was about forty-seven years old and unmarried. He was captain of the Alexandria Light Infantry up to the time of the disbandment of the old company in 1907, succeeding Captain Thomas R. Cochran. He was elected first sergeant during the Spanish-American War, and later was elected lieutenant. He subsequently resigned and was chosen captain. His funeral will take place on Monday morning from St. Mary's Catholic Church.

John P. Wilcox.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
PETERSBURG, VA., February 27.—John P. Wilcox, eldest son of the late R. Bolling Wilcox, died today at "Flower de Hundred," the home of his mother, in Prince George County. He had been a resident of Atlanta, Ga., for many years, and came to Petersburg about a week ago to visit his relatives. While his health had been delicate for some time, his death followed a very brief illness. Mr. Wilcox was a man of culture, of attractive manners and very popular with his friends. His surviving relatives are his mother, Mrs. R. Bolling Wilcox, and sister, Miss Bettie Wilcox, of Prince George County, and four brothers, Dr. D. D. R. Bolling and J. Hamilton Wilcox, of Petersburg, and Taylor Wilcox, of Fredericksburg. The body will be brought to Petersburg for burial.

Mrs. Sallie Bruffy.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
LYNCHBURG, VA., February 27.—Mrs. Sallie Bruffy, aged thirty-one years, wife of H. C. Bruffy, died last night at 11:20 o'clock at her home here. Mrs. Bruffy was a Miss King before her marriage, and she is survived by her parents, three sisters, four brothers, her husband and the following children: Myrtle, Clarence, Edith, Fredrick and George Bruffy.

Russell Euliss.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
FREDERICKSBURG, VA., February 27.—Russell Euliss, son of Mrs. Emma

Euliss, widow of John G. Euliss, formerly of Richmond, died here today at the home of his mother, after an illness of several months, aged ten years. He is survived by his mother and one sister.

Mrs. Susan F. Jenkins.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
FREDERICKSBURG, VA., February 27.—Mrs. Susan F. Jenkins, widow of W. B. Jenkins, of King George County, died at her home here last night after an illness of a week, aged sixty-eight years. She was a daughter of Addison Grady, of Spotsylvania County, and moved with her family to this city from King George fifteen years ago. She is survived by six children. The body will be taken to King George County on Sunday afternoon, and interment will be made in the family burying ground at Woodlawn.

William S. Towson.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
FREDERICKSBURG, VA., February 27.—William S. Towson, a prominent merchant at Cole's Landing, in Stafford County, died at the Mary Washington Hospital here last night, aged sixty-two years. He is survived by two children, two brothers and one sister.

Mrs. Elizabeth A. Marcher.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
ALEXANDRIA, VA., February 27.—Mrs. Elizabeth A. Marcher, sixty-five years old, wife of John Marcher, of Del Ray, Alexandria County, died last night. Besides her husband she is survived by several children.

Miss Annie Harbour.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
LYNCHBURG, VA., February 27.—Miss Annie Harbour, daughter of J. W. Harbour, of this city, died yesterday in Greenhill, S. C. The body will be brought to her father's home for burial.

Don't Practice Expensive Economy

By using an ordinary appearing, poorly printed letter-head, when a fraction of a cent per sheet more will provide you with the best.

Specify "Virstaco" Engraved Stationery

Its striking originality—its pleasing appearance—its rich, artistic engraving is attained only by master craftsmen and designers, such as are to be found at

VIRGINIA Stationery Co., Inc.

Encravers to Those Who Know, 915 East Main Street. Phone or write for samples.

"The Shopping Centre"



Bevies of Delightful New Blouses!

To-morrow we will feature a number of the smartest new tailored and other Blouses, which, just now, are making their debut for spring, 1915.

Authorities are agreed that, rather than "dressy" effects, SIMPLICITY in Blouses is to be the keynote when worn with the new suits—partly because Europe has reverted to greater simplicity of dress, and also because of the strictly tailored lines themselves. These newest Blouses are of crepe de chine, taffeta, Gorgette crepe, etc., and are priced as follows:

Mourning Blouses

A new model, made of fine crepe de chine; long set-in sleeves and has the new box plaited front and back; detachable white H. S. Collar over a collar of self-material; priced at... **\$5.50** only

New Striped Blouses

A strictly tailored model of striped crepe de chine that is quite stylish. With these, the high turn-down collar is a feature. Priced at... **\$5.00**

A Pretty Model Blouse

Is made of Georgette crepe. It has a hand-embroidered front and a striking standing collar. The colors are flesh, sand and white priced at... **\$5.00**

Palm Beach Blouse

A smart new Silk Blouse, having a tailored effect that is very attractive; a charming Blouse for a young woman or miss. Priced at... **\$5.00**

A Novelty Blouse

A delightful creation of Georgette crepe, embroidered in front and finished with a row of garnet ornaments. A distinctive feature of this Blouse is that it buttons down the back. Priced at... **\$8.95**

Ruffle-front Blouses

Very new and quite pretty! Ruffle-front Blouses of crepe de chine, with standing collar and long set-in sleeves. Priced at... **\$5.50**

Second Floor.

Separate Skirts and Petticoats

Excellent Lines—New and Practical Styles—Popular Prices

Women's Petticoats

"Klossit" and "Smooth-fit"—two popular makes that we carry—unexcelled in fitting and wearing qualities; here in complete assortments of colors and sizes: Cotton Petticoats at 98c to \$1.98 each. Messalines and Jerseys at \$1.59 to \$8.50.

Separate Skirts

An unusually large variety from which to select. Serge, Poplin, Novelty Mixture and Shepherd Check Skirts in all the popular styles and most fashionable colors. Prices, \$3.98 to \$10.00.



Millinery Announcement

This is to announce to the women of Richmond and vicinity that we have as our Millinery Designer MISS LILLIAN MEDLENKA—one who, admittedly, is A REAL ARTIST in her profession.

In fact, this and other commendatory remarks have been heard from many women who have seen some of the models she has created.

Miss Medlenka has convinced us through work she already has done that, during 1915, Miller & Rhoads Millinery will be generally recognized as the most beautiful and, withal, the most tasteful and becoming ever exhibited in the city of Richmond.

Whether you contemplate purchasing a hat at this time or not, we solicit your inspection. We will be pleased to show you these BEAUTIFUL SPRING HATS—and you have our assurance beforehand that all are VERY MODERATELY PRICED!

Second Floor.

A Reminder

of the fact that on Monday we shall continue the big sale of

New Embroideries

in which such EXTRA-ORDINARY VALUES in fine, hand-loomed Swiss, Nainsook and Organdy Edges and Insertings—5 to 18 inches wide—are being offered—

At 15c, 19c and 29c yard

—regular values, 25c to 59c.

But think of beautiful hand-loomed Embroideries—new 1915 designs—on excellent qualities of materials—selling for any such prices.

Think, too, of the opportunity for buying them RIGHT NOW, while they are in greatest demand for infants', children's and women's fine "undergarments, dresses, etc., being made or planned for spring and summer.

ATTEND THE SALE MONDAY! Visit the First Floor Booth.

You Want a "Real" Corset



Layida Corsets

Representing always the latest mode, fitting every form line, and producing perfect symmetry, and correct shapeliness of figure, La Vida Corsets assure comfort without sacrificing style; lightness without loss of durability, represent the acme of corset perfection, and, because they equal the most expensive custom-made corsets.

Miller & Rhoads sell them, of finest quality imported batiste, coutil and broche, exquisitely trimmed. Prices, \$3.50 to \$10.

Ask one of our experienced corsetieres for a fitting.

Second Floor.

Stock Reducing Sale

A Genuine Money-Saving Event

This is not a half-hearted sale, or a sale made up of Shoes from unknown makers. Instead it is a determined effort of the Hofheimer store to clean up what's left of fall and winter stocks of Shoes of the well-known Hofheimer standard of merit. The prices quoted are ACTUAL REDUCTIONS from original low prices; the BAR-GAINS are REAL.

Men's Shoe Bargains

Goodyear Welt Shoes, tan, patent and calfskin; all shapes; splendid value. Stock Reducing Price... **\$2.35**
Men's Shoes, in all leathers and shapes; welted oak leather soles; full \$3.50 value. Stock Reducing Price... **\$2.75**

Women's Shoe Bargains

Women's \$2.50 Patent and Gunmetal Shoes, lace and button; kid and cloth tops. Stock Reducing Price... **\$1.85**
Women's \$3.00 Goodyear Welt Button Shoes, kid, patent and gunmetal, in a number of smart styles. Stock Reducing Price... **\$2.25**
Women's \$3.50 and \$4.00 Patent and Gunmetal Shoes, round and medium shapes; cloth tops. Stock Reducing Price... **\$2.45**

Tables Full of Bargains

Women's Felt Slippers, tremendous bargains. Children's Felt Slippers, pair... **15c**
Infants' Shoes, 75c values... **45c**
Infants' Shoes, \$1.00 values... **65c**
Children's Shoes, \$1.25 values... **90c**
Women's \$2.50 Tan Calf Button Shoes, all sizes, to go for... **\$1.45**

One table full Ladies' \$3.50 to \$4.00 Shoes, new styles, but small lots and broken sizes, to go for... **\$2.35**

Table full of Men's Hand-Made Shoes, small lots, broken sizes; \$3.50 to \$5.00 values, to go for... **\$2.35**

One table full of Tan and Black Low Shoes, mostly small sizes, \$3 to \$4.50 values, to go for... **\$1.00**

Hofheimer's RELIABLE SHOES

Northwest Corner Broad and Third. The Big Store With the Little Prices.

The Shopping Centre

Men's Shirts!

To-morrow we make an exceptional offering of Doucettine Shirts—

at 79c ea.

THE WORKMANSHIP AND CUT OF A SHIRT makes all the difference between COMFORT, on the one hand, and "Distress" to the man who wears it.

In these Shirts, both the workmanship and the cut are the finest, "matching-up" with the excellent qualities of the fabric of which they are made.

The assortment of patterns is very fine, and it consists of colors that blend to meet the approval of the most exacting.

79c never brought a better return on the investment; probably never so good.

First Floor.



Miller & Rhoads

Miller & Rhoads